ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 14114.0349U2 PATENT

<u>IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE</u>

In re Application of Art Unit: 1648 Fields et al. Examiner: Bao Qun Li Application No. 09/758,308 Confirmation No. 9952 Filing Date: January 10, 2001 For: ANTIGENIC EPITOPES AND MOSAIC POLYPEPTIDES OF HEPATITIS C VIRUS PROTEINS

AMENDMENT AND ELECTION UNDER RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Attention: Examiner Bao Qun Li

Facsimile No. 703/308-4242

NEEDLE & ROSENBERG, P.C. Customer No. 23859

September 16, 2003

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action issued July 17, 2003, wherein restriction of the claims of the above-referenced application is required. Transmitted herewith is a request for a one-month extension time.

Prior to the mailing of an Office Action pertaining to the above-referenced patent application, please enter the following Amendment to the above-referenced application and consider the remarks that follow.

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2. Remarks begin on page 7.